

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 /096 W
-----115386 241533Z /53

R 231527Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2125
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMCONSUL JERUALEM
USMISSION USUN NY
USMISSION SINAI

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E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BU IS RO PEPR
SUBJ: MAPAM'S SHEM-TOV ON VISIT TO ROMANIA AND BULGARIA

REFS: (A) SOFIA 738, (B) BUCHAREST 1646 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. IN MARCH 22 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, MAPAM POLITICAL
SECRETARY VICTOR SHEM-TOV CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD VISITED
BULGARIA IN EARLY MARCH. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE REASONS
FOR HIS VISIT WERE SOLELY PERSONAL AND THAT HE HAD HAD
NO CONTACT WITH BULGARIAN OFFICIALS. HE NOTED THAT THE
BULGARIAN AUTHORITIES KNEW WHERE HE COULD BE REACHED HAD
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THEY WANTED TO INITIATE CONTACT; IT WAS CLEAR TO HIM
THAT THEY DID NOT, AND HE WAS NOT SURPRISED.

2. SHEM-TOV WAS NOT KEEN ON GOING INTO DETAILS OF
HIS TRIP TO ROMANIA. HE DESCRIBED HIS VISIT AS PART
OF MAPAM'S EFFORT TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN CONTACTS
WITH PARTIES OF THE LEFT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, ES-

PECIALLY SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES IN EUROPE.
(HE SINGLED OUT FRANCE'S RADICAL SOCIALIST PARTY AS AN
ORGANIZATION WITH WHICH MAPAM HAS CULTIVATED CLOSE
TIES.) HE VIEWS ROMANIA'S INTEREST IN RECEIVING ISRAELI
DELEGATIONS SUCH AS HIS OWN AS PART OF ROMANIA'S SINCERE
EFFORT TO CONTRIBUTE TO A RESOLUTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST
CONFLICT. SHEM-TOV BELIEVES THAT ROMANIA'S ACTIVISM
IN THIS SPHERE STEMS NOT SIMPLY FROM A DESIRE FOR SOME
PROMINENCE AND INDEPENDENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS;
ROMANIA'S LEADERS ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT
THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REPERCUSSIONS OF A CONTINUING
MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. ROMANIA IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE,
SAYS SHEM-TOV, TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT A FAILURE OF THE
SADAT PEACE INITIATIVE COULD STRENGTHEN THE SOVIET
UNION IN THE EASTERN AND SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN TO A
DANGEROUS DEGREE. VIETS

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